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February 27, 2002

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Application of **Mitsuo OCHI, Junji IWASA, Masatoshi TOBITA, Masakazu KATOH, Takeyuki YAMAMOTO, Rika FUKUSHIMA, and Toyokazu KURUSHIMA**
METHOD FOR MEASURING STIFFNESS OF CULTURED TISSUE, FOR DETERMINING TRANSPLANT COMPATIBILITY FOR QUALITY CONTROL AND FOR PREPARING TRANSPLANT-COMPATIBLE CULTURED TISSUE
Assignee: **MITSUO OCHI and JAPAN TISSUE ENGINEERING CO., LTD.**
Our Ref: **Q68602**

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Continuation-in-Part Application of pending prior Application No. 09/934,581 (Confirmation No. 7885) filed August 23, 2001 of Mitsuo OCHI, Junji IWASA, Masatoshi TOBITA, Masakazu KATOH, Takeyuki YAMAMOTO, Rika FUKUSHIMA, and Toyokazu KURUSHIMA entitled METHOD FOR MEASURING STIFFNESS OF CULTURED TISSUE, FOR DETERMINING TRANSPLANT COMPATIBILITY FOR QUALITY CONTROL AND FOR PREPARING TRANSPLANT-COMPATIBLE CULTURED TISSUE.

Attached hereto is the Continuation-in-Part Application comprising the specification, including the claims and abstract, 5 sheets of drawings, executed Declaration and Power of Attorney, executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form, Information Disclosure Statement and PTO form 1449, and a Preliminary Amendment.

The first priority document (Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-043935 dated February 20, 2001) was submitted in parent Application No. 09/934,581. The additional priority document (Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-012628 dated January 22, 2002) will be submitted at a later date.

Applicant claims benefit of small entity status in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.27.

11132 U.S. PTO

10083583-022702

11017 U.S. PTO
10/083583
02/27/02



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The Government filing fee is calculated as follows (**Small Entity fees apply**):

Total claims	11	-	20	=		x	\$9.00	=	\$0.00
Independent claims	3	-	3	=		x	\$42.00	=	\$0.00
Base Fee									\$370.00
Multiple Dependent Claim Fee									\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE									\$370.00
Recordation of Assignment									\$ 40.00
TOTAL FEE									\$410.00

Checks for the statutory filing fee of \$370.00 and Assignment recordation fee of \$40.00 are attached. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

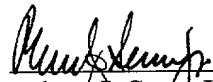
Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	2001-043935	February 20, 2001
Japan	2002-012628	January 22, 2002

The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Attorneys for Applicant

By: 
Robert J. Seas, Jr.
Registration No. 21,092